A Tasteful Magazine for Crossdressers

Island Goddess Pictorial

Gorgeous gals from Hawaii

TVideo Review
Danny LaRue in
Operation Fred

This issue's How-to feature...
The Art of Walking
In Extreme heels

Photos, photos, photos... from CDs just like you! GIRL TALK Q&A A READER ASKS, "How big is "BIG" HAIR?"

#30

\$10

Letters to The Editor

Profile Features
WORKING
GIRL
SHARON
DANIDSON



Editorial

Sex & The Single CD

Picture this — your date takes your hand and helps you out of his expensive, late model car. You take his arm as you stroll into the elegant French restaurant. Your ears are filled with the sound of compliments from your date, and the stimulating sound of your expensive high heels on the marble floor of the entrance. You catch a glimpse of yourself reflected in one of the entryway mirrors. You're wearing that perfect outfit that brings out all your best feminine qualities. Your date is tall and distinguished. He goes so well with your look. "My, we make a lovely couple," you say to yourself.

The maitre d' seats you and your date orders your cocktail, "The lady will have (insert your favorite femme drink here.)" The evening proceeds with all the requisite glamour and romance till... it's time to go home.

But, to whose home? Is he coming to your place for a "nightcap?" Or did you pack a bag with a toothbrush and a naughty nightie in preparation for a sexy sequel at his place after your romantic evening on the town? It's questions like this that cause many single crossdressers to put their dress back in the closet and lock the door — with themselves inside.

Most of us have had these kind of fantasies at one time or another (usually late at night). It's wonderful to think about all the TV fun you could have dating a man... acceptance as a woman in public places, the pampering, the wining and dining we expect a woman should receive from her date, and maybe... jewelry. But then, reality rears it's ugly head. If you really date a man one thing can (and usually does) lead to another. After the first date, it's a kiss. During the second, a hand on the thigh. After the third... S.E.X. Not a problem if you're bisexual, or homosexual. It can be a problem if you're a heterosexual.

The old adage of "all dressed up and no where to go," often applies to crossdressers. If we go out, we usually go by ourselves or with other "girls." If you're lucky enough to

have a female friend or lover to go out with there are other problems, but that's another editorial. So the lure of going out with a man is strong. (Isn't crossdresser fiction filled with stories of "girls" going out with men? Most often men who don't know their date's true nature.) Men offer girls like us perfect cover and they're good for ego strokes. So, what's a girl to do?

First, as the "woman" you need to know *you* are the one who controls and initiates the sex act. You'll only have to worry about fighting off an octopus if you are out with a creep (and that is a real possibility, men *are* pigs). As long as you pick your date with discernment you may have a fine time without fear that he will get frisky.

Second, remember, you don't *have* to have sex. Any man who expects you to "put out" is in the oinker category. Avoid oinkers, and learn to be careful of your own feelings. For example, you may remember how you felt when a woman you were dating didn't respond to your advances. This might make you more inclined (after a few romantic cocktails with umbrellas in them) to give in to your date's romantic efforts since you feel sorry for him. Don't do it! If you really want to have sex with this man — if you are attracted by not just the romance of the situation but really lust after his body — then go ahead and do the wild thing.

If it's just that you're all turned on by the fantasy of seeming to be a heterosexual woman on a date, or several dates, then you'd better end the night with a kiss on the cheek. Otherwise the conflict between your heterosexual masculine side and your heterosexual feminine side could make a real project for your therapist.

If you do decide to satisfy your date's desires, make sure you follow safer sex guidelines, and whether you're in fantasyland or your lover's bed, have fun girls.

A Tasteful Magazine for Crossdressers

In this issue...

sky-high, sexy heels.

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Sharon Davidson

LadyLike: When did you first start crossdressing?

Sharon Davidson: Like many transgendered people I've had an interest in dressing since childhood. It went away for quite a while and returned during college. I can still vividly recall the very first time I dressed "fully." Up until then, I had paraded around the house in outfits, but had left out the little things, like wigs and shoes.

LL: When did you decide to give "going public" a try?

SD: When I turned 21 I decided to go to a local costume shop to purchase my first wig. I'll bet I sounded like a complete idiot to the clerk as I told her I needed a long, blond wig for a party. That old wig would survive lipstick stains, my attempts to crimp it (I knew *nothing* about wigs), and being squashed up in a box, for quite a while. Anyway, I stopped at a Payless Shoe Source and guessed my shoe size... wonder of wonders, I hit it right on the head. I bought a pair of size 10, white 3" pumps.

My attempts at shopping didn't result in anything I could wear in public. All I had were fancy dresses and other silly outfits. Still, I was determined. For my first outing I wore a pink dress with heels and draped my bulky white pocketbook over my shoulder. When I put on the wig and slipped on the shoes, it was like a magic spell had been cast over me. To this day I still don't feel like Sharon, the woman, until that wig is in place. Anyway, I have no idea what got into me, I just had a sudden desire to go out and do something. Never mind the fact the only face makeup I wore was lipstick, eye shadow (three shades, blue, red and yellow!), and mascara. I hadn't discovered makeup (foundation) or eyeliner yet, believe it or not. Heck, if I'd known about cover-up and concealers in high school, I never would have had a pimple I couldn't hide!

I can imagine how silly I must have looked, tiptoeing toward the door with my heart racing. When I opened the door, a breeze hit my legs, and wearing hose, it was a feeling I'd never experienced before. I wanted more! So off I went to my car. I drove around my apartment complex and down the street. I thought my heart might explode. I thought the whole world was watching. I don't think I've ever felt as much satisfaction and relief at the same time as I did when I shut my door after I got home.

Once I started venturing out, I couldn't get enough. Gradually I worked up the courage to actually get out of the car—going to fun places like ATM machines, stamp machines, and the ever-popular video store drop box. I would spend an hour dressing up to walk 50 feet outside to my mailbox and pick up my mail! It was probably a year before I started visiting places that were a little more crowded, but much more interesting. I was still wearing an obvious wig, a thick brunette one, and hadn't learned to do makeup very well... but I had visited a Circle K, pumped gas a few times, and gone into a supermarket at 2:00 AM. Not exactly a social butterfly!

LL: You've been doing a drag costume at work on Halloween every year since 1992. How does that go over?

SD: I remember walking into my data entry job five years ago, Halloween morning, dressed in a red sequined cocktail dress and heels. People told me they thought there was a new girl temping that day until someone piped up and exclaimed, "Oh my god, it's you isn't it!" It's

amazing what Halloween can do for your self confidence. In the years since, I've been everything from a bride (bought a beautiful wedding gown for \$25 in a thrift shop!) to a sexy saloon chick... last year was probably my top performance. I strode into work (new job) in a red Western saloon dress, red suede boots, red fishnets, a garter with a little model gun in it, black choker, long red earrings, 2 inch red nails, impeccable makeup, and my redhead wig professionally styled... knocked my audience dead! It won me a pile of movie passes, too, for best costume, although I still hear about it from time to time around the office. A few people wondered why I spent on ladies suede money

boots.

My co-workers have been very good-natured about the costumes, although after the second time I showed up as a woman, I'm sure a few of them are a little suspicious. Several told me they were happy to know a man could be so secure in his manhood as to dress so convincingly as a woman and pull it off. I

een and it still amazes me.

Manhood, schmanhood, I
love being Sharon!

LL: How did you decide on your name?

SD: I've actually gone through several names, but this one seems right. I see a therapist every so often, and one of the things she likes to try is called 'past life therapy,' where the cli-

ent remains fully conscious but is taken back to, presumably, a previous lifetime. During my first session, the events I was able to 'see' felt very real to me, and the name Sharon kept coming to me as I experienced them. So, here I am.

LL: How fast have you progressed in the feminine arts?

SD: I've made great strides to improve the way I look. I bought the dreaded corset from Frederick's... their "Ultimate Corset" is only about \$55 and works quite well. I settled on a hair color, length and style, and bought real wigs this time. The people at Beauty Trends love me. I've accumulated a wardrobe fit for everyday life; jeans, skirts, shorts, casual dresses and nicer outfits. I switched Dermablend, which seems to do a good job of covering the beard area. I went on a major crash diet, the details of which scare

everyone I share them with, so I won't.

LL: How do you deal with one of the biggest problems for transgendered people, the voice?

SD: I have worked diligently on my voice for a feminine sound, and I haven't been read yet due to a deep voice. I practice by making phone calls as Sharon, talking in my car, recording my voice and playing it back, and so on. I always had a soft voice. Yesterday I bought an Arizona t-shirt (my Wildcats won the basketball championship!) and talked for quite a while with the vendor... he had no idea about me, and we chatted out in the rain. At work I haven't had any problems with my voice yet.

LL: What kind of activities does Sharon do?

SD: I used to keep a list of all the places I'd been to as Sharon, and to be honest, it was pretty pathetic. I can't keep up with all the stuff I've done in the past year, probably more than the average woman. I've gone shopping as Sharon in all of Tucson's malls as well as one in Anaheim without any problems. It's so nice to be able to actually try things on *inside* the store rather than have to guess at whether they'll fit or not. Sometimes I go to the shops in the mall just to try on a bunch of outfits for fun, but I usually can't refuse buying at least one. I've gone to a Moody Blues concert as Sharon... the lady next to me wouldn't stop talking! One thing I love to talk about is my trip to Glamourous You in Tucson. I had glamour shot-type photos taken last fall, and let me just say it was a wonderful experience. I was in heaven, and the employees at the store had as much fun as I did.

LL: Was the staff aware of your gender?

SD: I walked in there as Sharon, made the appointment in person. I let them know straight up what my situation was. I doubted I could fool a makeup person, considering that when they begin working on your face, you're not supposed to be wearing any makeup. They were very understanding. They set me up with a 10:00 AM appointment, the first of the day. They allow you to arrive with makeup on, provided you remove it once you get there. After an hour with the makeup woman, I was ready for photos, and the photographer and his assistant had a blast filming me. I'd brought a few of my own outfits—usually they put together something for you and photograph you from the shoulders up only. For me, they did several upper and full body shots. I felt wonderful.

I think the thing to keep in mind with the "glamour

shots" studios is, if the staff knows you are a paying customer, and that the experience is important to you, they'll treat you like any other customer.

LL: You said you have a lot of the everyday experiences a woman has. Tell us about some of them.

SD: I have a hairdresser for my wigs. He knows about me, but he says his assistant asked him if the woman he was working on was a cancer patient or whether she just loved wearing wigs. I have a regular seamstress I visit for alterations, and I've had my nails done professionally. My seamstress and nail tech do not know [I am a male]. My seamstress is wonderful, she even does suede! We've sat and talked while she finished one of my skirts, and we get along really well. I went out and got an Arizona Identification Card as Sharon... it's saved me the embarrassment of having to produce my driver's license as ID on more than one occasion.

LL: What's the best part of doing things as Sharon?

SD: One thing about going places as Sharon; it can make going *anyplace* much more fun. Who else gets excited about going to Walgreens or Wal-Mart, for example? I try to run all my errands as Sharon, unless I happen to be going to the Home Depot, or someplace where I might get dirty. Then again, why not go there too, and just let those nice employees carry everything for me? I suppose the best thing is the feeling of making it as a woman in society... there's nothing like it. I walk around on cloud nine.

LL: What's been your best experience to date?

SD: Well, I suppose not being read is always a good experience, but there are a few compliments I can remember in particular. I spent a weekend in Las Vegas as Sharon. One evening I went with a friend to a show at the Riviera Casino and we were seated next to a couple from San Antonio. Before I knew it, I was chatting with the woman next to me about everything from Sea World in San Antonio to slot machine strategies. First she complimented me on my outfit... since it was Las Vegas, I wore a red sequined slip dress with matching heels and purse, and had been turning heads all night. Next she wanted to know if my friend and I were married (we're just pals), and then came the big compliment. She'll never even know how big it was. She asked if we'd seen "An Evening at La Cage," which also shows at the Riviera. When I said no, she produced a program from the show

and let me look at some of the pictures of the performers. Then, she tells me, "Sharon, you're not going to believe this, but every one of the women in this show is really a man!" I was startled but managed to say, "You're kidding!" We talked about how hard it must be for those guys to go through "what we go through each day," and she explained that she was a Mary Kay consultant and thus very interested in the makeup the performers used. I just couldn't bear to tell her about me. Later that evening I was in the ladies' room when a woman walked up to me and said, "Honey, you are just beautiful, and I have to tell you, I have a son who's 25, and he loves redheads..." I just about fainted after that.

LL: Along with the highs, there have to be the lows. What were your worst experiences while dressed?

SD: My bad experiences have generally involved either nearly running into someone I know from work, or not being able to change when wanted to. For instance, one afternoon I pulled into my street wearing a red dress and heels, and found the fire hydrant by my home spouting water and kids jumping around in the spray. A fire truck was parked across my driveway, and there were people everywhere. I wound up having to drive to the





alley behind my house, climb over a 7-foot wall in a fancy red dress, then sneak around to the front door when I couldn't get in through the back. I had some encounters years ago with people who made me sick to my stomach... I hear horror stories about girls' wigs being snatched off by some ignorant redneck, or worse things happening. I thank God I've been lucky in that regard. A good rule of thumb, someone told me, is while dressed obey the speed limit and don't run any stop signs. Even with my Arizona ID, I wouldn't want to be stopped.

LL: You're now working at your regular job as a male but you just got a part time position *en femme*. How did you go about that?

SD: A couple of years ago I made a list of a few things I wanted to accomplish as Sharon, some of them reasonable, some admittedly a little outlandish. I've taken each thing one step at a time, and finally I hit the point where I felt I was ready to work as Sharon. After all, since my full time job is in the evening, my mornings were free, and if I'm dressing anyway, I might as well earn money instead of

spending it, right?

A couple of months ago I began a job search, assembling a resume, deciding what I'd be comfortable doing, and scanning the classifieds every Sunday. I decided on something in a clerical capacity, although at one point I interviewed for a job modeling wedding gowns at a fashion show. I couldn't pass that one up! Almost got it, too.

When I applied for jobs, I did so as Sharon, and I ex-

plained my situation on my resume and as best I could on the job application if there was room. I felt my best chance of getting a position would be to give my resume to my future boss directly. Reading the phrase "I am a transgendered individual" on a resume must plant all sorts of pictures in the minds of many employers, so I thought it would be best if he/she saw me right away. There were strange looks from a few employers. There were smiles as I handed my resume to office workers at other places. But there were a few serious interviews as well. One company simply had a problem with the hours I was available to work. They asked me several times if there was any way I could work later in the day, and seemed very impressed with my resume. More importantly, I had several interviewers tell me they were looking for "the best person for the job." Now that's what I like to hear! I was rather surprised at how nice so many people were. After several interviews, phone calls and a few pounds of newsprint, I was hired for a data processing job. Getting that phone call was a dream come true.

LL: Describe what the first day of work was like.

SD: What does a woman wear on her very first day of work? Will she get there on time when she's not sure how long it will take to get ready and look perfect? Will she be out in the open? Will she be starting with a group of people or by herself? I knew I hadn't asked enough questions at the interview. Jitters? Of course! Turns out I was starting work along with 10 women and one man. I know being the only 'new girl' in the office would have been a million times tougher. When my boss called to hire me, I told her I was on cloud nine. Bet she doesn't hear that very often about a data processing job. I got up extra early and kept a close eye on my time as I got ready for work. Purple satin blouse, black suede skirt, heels... style the hair, spray on a little perfume, paint on the makeup... and I was ready to go. I was paired up with a nice older woman who walked me through the job, answering my questions in a way that made those butterflies settle down. Before I knew it, Sharon was a working woman.

LL: Does anyone you work with know?

SD: My boss knows my secret. We talked about it over the phone, and her take is simply that I have to be happy with myself and enjoy my life. This is a big step for me; it's nice to know my supervisor is understanding about it. At this point, my co-workers do not know about me. Or, if they do, they're being awfully quiet about it. My guess is

people may find out one by one, and what's an office without rumors flying around? I couldn't think of a way to tell everyone the first day. Should I have stopped everyone and made an announcement? Is it wrong for me to try to bareface my way through work as a woman? The biggest goal I have is to be accepted as a woman. That means working at it. I want people to look at me and see only a woman, and think no more of it.

LL: Since the boss knows that must make the payroll details simpler.

SD: My paychecks are going to my first initial, last name. I have my Arizona Identification card, a valid address and phone number. Filling out my first job applications as Sharon was harder than I had anticipated. Just getting past the "Name" line wasn't easy. Probably the most important thing is to be truthful. That, and to make sure if your new company needs a reference from an employer or school, that they refer to you by your **male** name. My boss and co-workers call me Sharon, and it says Sharon on my timecard. That's good enough for me.

LL: What does the well dressed data processing woman wear in Arizona these days?

SD: I'd prefer to wear dresses and skirts every day. We have a casual atmosphere at work. I've had to go with blouses and jeans several times to fit in with my co-workers. Still, I've gone through at least a dozen different outfits, and bought one more yesterday that I'm dying to wear tomorrow. Dressing up is certainly OK; nothing wrong with a woman looking her best for work. If some of my co-workers want to roll out of bed and walk into work, more power to them.

I've been doing some shopping and came up with a red suit/skirt combo, a cream colored dress, a brown spring dress, several skirts and tops, and a cute little green dress I wore for St. Patrick's Day. Sometimes I feel like Lois Lane changing into Clark Kent though, on the days when I get home from my job as Sharon, then have to be at my other job within an hour. I've had to change at a friend's house when I had company at home. I hate having to change for the other job, but it's a small price to pay. What this job is doing for me is to really boost my self confidence, to prove to myself that I can exist and function as a woman in this facet of society. If I ever decide to live full time as Sharon, I'll look back to the day I got my first job as a woman, and see it as a very important day in my life.

LL: Changing for the other job might not be a problem if you came out there. Do you think, since you've planted those Halloween clues, that you might try it someday?

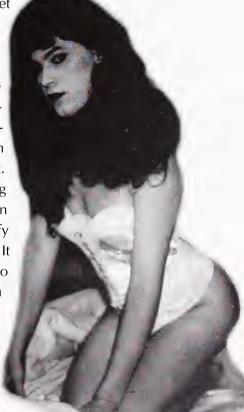
SD: Right now I don't think I could make the transition at my main job. Perhaps I just need a wee bit more self-confidence. Maybe it's because so many people there know me. More likely it's because I have a relative who works there as well. In my current position I work closely with a small group of people; I really don't know how they'd react to Sharon on an everyday basis. I keep pictures of Sharon on display at work, just as a little reminder to myself. They make me smile.

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LL: What ambitions do you have?

SD: I really don't know how far Sharon will go. I have been taking things one step at a time, and as I mentioned above, setting certain goals each year. I am not yet taking any type of hormones, but I have given it a lot of thought and will discuss it with my physi-

cian soon. I'm starting to get depressed whenever I see a beautiful woman, even on television, so perhaps that time is very near. There are just so many hurdles involved in making the decision to live full time that I'm not ready to decide that yet. For a while I thought being able to work as Sharon would be enough to satisfy me. But you know what? It only increases the desire to be Sharon, it makes you want more and more. It's anyone's guess as to what I'll be doing down the road. I certainly have my fantasies.



GirlTalk

with JoAnn Roberts

Girl Talk is your forum. Any question on any topic is fair game, from makeup secrets to the psychology of transgendered behavior. If I don't have an answer. I'll find someone who does. Write me care of this magazine with

your questions.

Dear JoAnn,

I had my photo taken at a Glamour Shots studio and when the makeup artist was working on me the manager suggested she use a "blue blocker." I'm guessing it was to cancel out beard color. What exactly is it and why haven't I heard about it before.

Revana, Calif.,

Dear Revana,

It was great to meet you at the Cal Unity convention last April. As for the blue blocker, you may well have heard of the product but just don't recognize it under that name. Basically it's a reddish-orange color that neutralizes the blue cast in beard shadow. Sometimes it is sold as beard cover. You can accomplish the same effect using a trick I learned from my good friend, and professional Ann Margret impersonator, Morgan Stevens. Rub a cheap redorange lipstick over your beard area to neutralize the beard shadow. You don't need much color, just a stain. Wipe most of it off, then apply your foundation over the stain. Bingo!, the shadow is gone.

Dear JoAnn,

Do you have any suggestions for making dark eyes appear larger

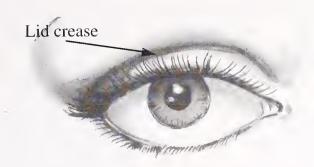
Marianne, NM

Dear Marianne,

Large dark eyes will make you look very sexy and sultry. Be prepared to fend off the admirers.

Before We talk about the shadow, let me mention brushes. Go out and get yourself a good set of makeup brushes that includes several eyeshadow brushes. You'll find it much easier to apply eyeshadow colors accurately with better quality brushes.

Okay, first prepare your eyelids with a base. Use either a concealer or a little foundation. This helps the eyeshadow stay on longer. Now, choose a distinctive eyeshadow color to use.



When applying the shadow, blow off the excess shadow from the applicator or brush. Smooth a little color from your lid crease to the base of your lashes. Then apply a heavier amount from the crease working your way up to the brow, but don't go all the way to the brow line. The idea here is to enlarge the eye area without making a black eye effect.

Coat only the top lashes with mascara. This gives the look of fresh, wide-open eyes.

Dear JoAnn,

Since I can't pass, my way of expressing my feminine self is to wear lingerie under my male clothes. During the winter months though, my long coat can hide a blouse and jeans. I would like to order some male-looking women's jeans but I don't know what size to order. I have a 36 inch waist and 40 inch hips.

Lauren B., N.J.

Dear Lauren,

You have a problem sweetie. You have a size 20 waist with size 14 hips. It ain't gonna work, hon! If you buy a size large enough to fit you in the waist, you're going to be swimming in those jeans around your hips. I doubt that even hip pads would help because you'd need to wear a "Wide Load" sign.

You're going to have to make that waistline smaller. A size 14 waist would be about 31 inches, maybe 32 with elastic. Then you would have a near proper fit for women's jeans. Sorry for the bad news.

Dear JoAnn.
Just how "big" is Big Hair?
Marci, Nebraska

Dear Marci,

I thought someone would never ask. See the chart at right for the various classes of Big Hair.

Hair-o-meter

Hair Status	Height of Hair	% chance of cult involvement
Run!	12 inches	99.999856% Head injury
Death Hair	11 inches	98% Combing Implausible
Super Wicked	10 inches	85% Gets Stuck in Cars
Super	9 inches	67% Avoid Utility Poles
Wicked	8 inches	53% Special Permit Req´d
Big	7 inches	45%
Pretty Big	6 inches	30%
Sorta Big	5 inches	23%
Kinda Big	4 inches	15%
Stupid Hair	3 inches	7%
Wicked Stupid	2 inches	2%
Retarded	1 inch	

Stay frosty 'til next time! JoAnn



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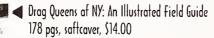
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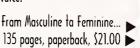
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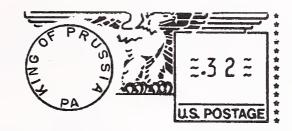
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Letters



Loves Surfing the Net

Dear JoAnn:

Hi! Its been a while since I last wrote but I'm back again. LadyLike is still by far the very best magazine on the market today. Your coverage of transgender issues is tasteful and done with style and class. I visually devour each issue as soon as it arrives. The Profiles are still my favorite section because I often see a little bit of me in my sisters — they just happen to be a lot braver and look better than I do.

I've finally got a PC and have been "surfing the Web" and finding hundreds of wonderful sites. If I had only known earlier of all the excellent information, tips, stories, histories and beautiful sisters; I would have gotten one sooner. (Please note that I am typing this to give your "poor old tired eyes a rest" — per your suggestion).

I saw you in the film documentary *All Dressed Up and Nowhere to Go* on Cinemax. The film was very well done, and it was wonderful to both see and hear you (even if only on film). I have to agree with your statement that you have touched more lives as JoAnn than your male self, for you certainly have touched mine.

As I have been on line, I see all of these marvelous ladies who are expanding their lives, nurturing their femininity and becoming the women they want to be. I'm envious and admire them. I'm trying to express my femininity more and more, in subtle mays; however, I am still deeply closeted and cannot come out because my family is too narrow minded to accept Beverly. I've made tentative contacts

on the web, usually complementing someone about their web site, but at least it is a step forward. I'm also planning to make contact with a nearby support group, but it will have to be by correspondence at first. Maybe I'll see you online in the TG Forum. Maybe you could include a section in LL on the best web sites, tricks on surfing, and software to assist on downloading and uploading.

Well, thanks again JoAnn for being there. I will always hold you in a special place in my heart.

Love,

Beverly Barnes

Thanks Bev! Well, what do you think, readers? Should we have a column on what's hot on the net? Write or email us and let us know.

Photos Are Great

Dear JoAnn,

I have enjoyed your magazine very much. It has helped me to understand about life as a crossdresser. I have tried doctors, psychologists, family therapy — none of them even came close to what your magazine and other books have taught me. I have checked out every book I could find from every library all over the country. I recommend to everyone to go to your public library and ask them to help find books. They will be glad to help you. Do not be afraid to ask them about what you want.

I love to see pictures of the other girls. It makes me feel more at ease to read and see more girls like myself. I wish that others would come out and not be afraid to share their other feminine selves with their friends and family. Do not be ashamed of what we are. It is a great feeling to have the ball and chain off your neck by telling others about yourself. There are more of us out there than you can imagine, the one you tell may also be a part-time girl and need help. Also, there are female crossdressers. They need a friend to lean on too.

I go by Melinda Ann. I have been crossdressing for over fifty years. It relieves the pressure and tension. It is a very good feeling to put on feminine things. I wear feminine clothes most of the time. The magazine, *LadyLike*, is the number one of its kind that I know of. Keep up the good work!

Thanks very much, Melinda Ann Buddy

Saw Pudgy Roberts

Dear Angela,

Please find enclosed a check to renew my subscription for the coming year. (My first subscription was a gift from my dear friend, Tina.) I thoroughly enjoyed the last issue and wanted to comment on both your editorial response to Mikki Lynne and JoAnn's comments directed at conservatives in the community. I thought that both you and JoAnn hit the nail on the head when you remind all of us to help the cause in any way possible.

The story and review of LIPS was great and very informative. I can't wait to get down there. The Flash Back interview with Pudgy Roberts brought back wonderful memories of a truly talented individual. I remember see-

continued on page 15

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Seed Your Photos

The most frequent praise we get here at LadyLike Magazine is, "Your girls are the best!" The most frequent request we get is, "Can I write to -----?" So, we're responding to what our readers want. Beginning with this issue (#30), if you include your mailing name and mailing address on the back of your photos, we will print your address with your photo in the magazine so people can write to you directly. If you want us to forward mail for you and you are a subscriber, include \$10 and we'll assign you a number and forward any mail for you for one year.

Beginning with issue #30, if you want to write to someone whose picture appears in the magazine, look for an address and write directly. Or, look for a forwarding number like FWD9999 with the photo. If there's an FWD number, write your letter, put it in a #9 envelope and **in pencil** write the FWD number on the front. For **each** letter to be forwarded, put your letter, the #9 envelope, correct postage in stamps and \$2 in another envelope (#10 or larger) and mail it all to us here at LadyLike Magazine, c/o PO Box 61263, King of Prussia, PA 19406-1263.



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Letters

ing her "one man show" in NYC with dozens of costume changes and truly creative and gifted impersonations all using "her" own voices. I'm glad to see she's still kicking up her heels.

Don't stop climbing up on your soapbox. Just make sure you wear panty hose and a pretty slip!

Yours truly, Cena

Wants a Rate Increase?

Dear Angela,

Enclosed is my renewal check. Isn't it just about time for a rate increase? In your editorial you mentioned "a basement full" of pictures that were perhaps not suitable for inclusion in LL. If you don't want to just ship them to me, how about offering them for sale in "sets" of 10 or 20. Or, better yet, offer them as "premiums" for donations for your favorite charity, maybe one or all of the national organizations such as AEGIS or Renaissance. If any of the unused photos were of me I would welcome this method of distribution, in the name of a good cause. Hey, maybe there is an idea for an article, maybe a special solicitation of photos to be used expressly for this purpose. Idon't mean reprints, I mean originals. Maybe, some of your regular ladies could offer "sets" for this cause. I personally would love to have a "set" of Melissa Franks and/or Laurie Ann. You're the magazine people, think on it. I realize that this would involve expense and time, how about some volunteers, I am retired and could offer plenty of my time and effort. Oops, now I am starting to babble...

All my best,

Edith

Angela was exaggerating a little about a basement full of photos. We used some of those old pix in last issue and several readers objected. Of course, they've forgotten that the newbies haven't seen them yet. However, we're not selling or auctioning anyone's photos, sorry.

Wants Us To Go Weekly

Dear Angela,

I really enjoyed your editorial in the last issue of *LadyLike*. As a crossdresser, it seems only a natural to have photography as a very important hobby. I have endeavored to have the proper equipment and adequate photographic knowledge so that I could take photos of myself. Then I can savor my crossdressing opportunities many times over... especially when circumstances have prohibited my dressing for a period of time.

I appreciated your comments regarding smiling for the camera. You're right about those sultry, sexy looks that we often try to mimic. I have never been able to pull it off. But when I smile my biggest smile, I seem (at least to me) to radiate exuberance at the sheer opportunity of being my most dazzling feminine self.

I imagine that you must be overwhelmed with photographs of crossdressers hoping to get "published." I know that I have sent you volumes of photographs myself. Yet, it's interesting... the first thing I do when I receive a new issue of *LadyLike* is scan the pages with anxious anticipation, hoping that I was included in the *Mirror Mirror* section. Thanks for all of the times you have included me.

I wrote to JoAnn a few months ago, sending some photographs (old & new) for possible inclusion in the "Then and Now" section of *LadyLike*. I do think that I have made remarkable progress in my CD life span. I hope that you still might consider me for inclusion in a future edition. I have enclosed a few more "updated" photographs.

Thanks for all that you do for our community. I appreciate so much your wonderful publication. After scanning the pages for my picture, I eagerly devour each page. I only wish that you published weekly. I would enjoy it that often.

Love, Jeri

LadyLike Lifeline

Dear JoAnn,

LadyLike has become my lifeline because I am at least a four and a half hour drive from the nearest support group. Because of a non-supportive spouse and other family/society problems, I am still closeted.

Currently I can only dream of shopping in the mall or going to a club as Susan. I need help with my feminine presence before passing. At 53 I have little time to waste and hope to avail myself of Paradise in the Poconos. I can't begin to tell you what I would do for a make-over, especially as my dress size is slowly enlarging.

Soon I should have a PO Box so that I can correspond with interested sisters. Love you for all the work you have done and are doing for all of us.

Many Thanks,

Susan

Enjoys the Realism

Dear JoAnn and Angela,

No other publication comes close to *LadyLike*. The quality of the graphics, the content, the writing style, the models all combine to put every other publication of its kind to shame. Your magazine is tasteful, sophisticated... yet sexy, for every TV and admirer.

It is really enjoyable to see features on ladies like Deb MacKinnon rather than only ones on drag divas. People like Deb represent a much more realistic, believable goal than do the super

continued on page 16

Letters

stars who too often have an aura (of) parody that makes them less real, less passable in ordinary situations.

I look forward to *LadyLike* for a long time to come.

Cordially, Mardee Louise

Thought It Would Go Away

Dear Angela,

I read your editorial in LadyLike #28. I don't have an entourage or glamour photo experience but I am gradually learning more about makeup and photography. It was really nice to have had two my photos included with those of so many lovely ladies in LadyLike #27. It motivated me to further try my hand at photography. I kept in mind what you said about smiling and while I realize that they're not perfect — I've always been a little self-conscious about my smile — I believe I've made progress since the first photos I sent.

I used to think that my desire for femininity would dissipate and that things in my life would eventually just fall into place and that I would "outgrow" my secret desire to be a woman. Instead, it's just increased with the passing of time. Now I just wish that I had started crossdressing earlier in life. Anyway, I hope you won't mind a few more photos.

Congratulations to you and JoAnn on a fine issue. It's a pleasure to read *LadyLike*. I look forward to the Profile section, the Reader's Letters, Girl Talk, and of course Mirror Mirror.

Sincerely, Beverly

Transformed & Loved It

Dear Editors,

Several months ago I was fortunate to pickup a copy of your magazine. I

was very pleased to find something so refreshing, informative and professionally done. Covering the issue of crossdressing unlike so many other publications you find. Like other of us ladies, I have been dressing for many years and have come to accept myself for what I am. But the one thing I lacked was the self-esteem and confidence to pass in public. I had gone out, but only to places where I knew other crossdressers would be. Until I found an ad in your magazine offering a complete transformation, which I am pleased to say I took advantage of. And I am pleased to say that it was worth every cent I spent. Not only did I get a complete transformation but we also went out to a couple of places that were public, and I had no problem at all. So, for all you ladies out there who felt like me, find someone who will offer you this service and do it. It's well worth the time and money to gain that self confidence we all need.

Sincerely, April Roy

Another Ms. Roberts

Dear Ms. Roberts,

I have been reading and enjoying your magazine for about three years now and finally go the courage to write. Who knows, I might subscribe!

You magazine is the classiest and most elegant I have seen. I even showed it to my wife. It made her uncomfortable but that's another story. I love your advice, Profile, and Mirror Mirror. Rachel Lane (LL #19) and I write all the time, and I have developed a very sisterly, warm relationship with Fran Williams. (LL #24) But recently I have not been able to get hold of her. I wrote to her when you were doing personals. I know this is a stretch but is it possible to forward a letter to her through you or at least let her know

that I'm asking about her? From our conversations I got the impression that you and her wrote regularly, but I understand if you can't or don't want to. I just hope Fran is alright.

I hope to write to you again soon and will avail myself of your videos and tips so that I can pass. I have never been out in public. I'm hoping to someday.

Sincerely yours,

Kelly Roberts

Angela replies: Heaven's, it's JoAnn's long lost sister. (Not!) Since we've printed your letter I'm sure Fran will see it and get back in touch with you. She probably went away to a spa for a good rest, a pedicure and some mud packs.

By all means work on improving your already good looks. We must all try to be better everyday in every way. Be careful to stand up straight and give the camera a great big smile.

There are at least three support groups in your area and you can get their addresses and phone numbers from our Resources section. A support group is your best place to make the first trip out into the company of others. Good luck. Send us some photos.

Mea Culpa! Mea Culpa!

JoAnn Roberts writes:

As you might have noticed, there are no photos in this issue's Letters section. That's because I had an accident in the office and ruined them before they were scanned for the magazine. I've taken precautions so this will not happen again, but don't I feel like the dummy!

Please continue to send your letters and photos. We all want to see you and hear what you have to say.





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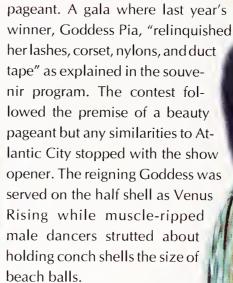
2147 West Belmont, Chicago, IL 60618 Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 12-7 pm

Island DDESS

by William J. Talley

Is Hawaii your dream vacation? If the answer is no, imagine the following: You are one of the featured performers at a Waikiki showroom. Celebri-

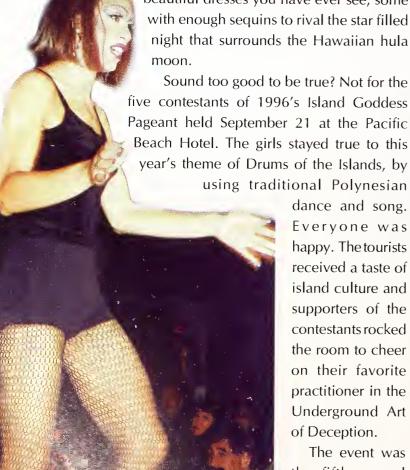
ties in traditional Hawaiian music and talent agents ring the runway as you strut and bump your way to standing ovations. You hold high the most outrageous hair do's and wear the most



The first category was talent. The audience received a wide variety of performances from Polynesian dance to high

energy lip sync. Next came

beautiful dresses you have ever see, some with enough sequins to rival the star filled night that surrounds the Hawaiian hula



dance and song. Everyone was happy. The tourists received a taste of island culture and supporters of the contestants rocked the room to cheer on their favorite practitioner in the Underground Art of Deception.

The event was the fifth annual





Hairdos
Aiko lit
room v
hairdo — literally. Her braided weave formed a
chandelier complete with working light
bulbs. Xie Xie LaRage seemed to defy
gravity and defy the five feet from
shoulder height limit. Her hairdo
was a killer bee hive topped with
a six inch cow lick, all in bright
yellow.

Most contestants won prizes since the judges awarded category winners as well as two Goddess runner-ups. Roxanne Richards won the talent category and best use of theme. Aiko won the Couture Drag and Xie Xie LaRage netted best hairdo. In the overall competition Roxanne Richards received second runner up and if the winner is unable to fulfill her duties Cocoa Chandelier, the first runner up, will step in. The 1996 Island Goddess title went to Aiko. You go girl! (first printed in Spectator)



Aiko, Island Goddess 1996



Underground Art of Deception



TOP ROW: Left- SKINTWO Mistress Dress \$280 (model Carrie); Center - Sinsation Satin Mistress Dress \$150 (model Anja); DeMask Nun's Habit \$415, gloves \$45 (models Anja & Evita).

Mistress Barbara's IMPROPER ATTIRE

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CATALOGS

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Models Anja, Carrie and Evita are on staff at New York's most opulent house of fantasy ARENA/BLAZE. BOTTOM ROW: Left- Northbound Leather Halter Dress \$234, Winged Gauntlets \$101 (model Carrie); Center -All photos except lower right are by LEDA. Improper Sinsational Satin Maid's Uniform \$135; Right -Attire is owned and operated by Mistress Barbara Orrtanna, PA 17353 • VISA/MC Northbound Leather Corset \$216, Stormy Leather Bra \$46 (lower right). She is 6' 5" tall and the items she is (model Mistress Barbara) wearing are far from the largest we carry.



Then & Now

Alison Word PO Box 21963, Beaumont, TX 77720 --- 1993



Alison Word PO Box 21963, Beaumont, IX 77720 — 1996



Jeri Jones, Utah — 1980



Jeri Jones, Utah — 1996



LadyLike



Teah, New Orleans



Micheline Montreuil, 1050 Orleans, Charlesbourg Quebec 🛦 Canada G1H 2H2





MsDaphne@aol.com A Daphne, Mich.

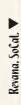
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Katrina Reed, PO Box 67. Warner Springs. CA 92086 ▼



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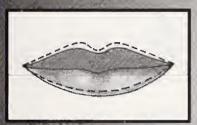




What are the correct shades to use for my eye shape ?? How do I correct my eyebrows if I don't want to tweeze them ??



Being a person of large body type or being overweight has nothing to do with looking great and being passable (as seen in this photo)



What is the correct shape for my lips ??



you with questions!!



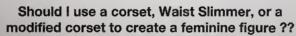
What size and type of breast forms are best for my chest and body type ??



What wig color, style, and length is best for my face shape and body type ??



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Denise Davidson, FWD2424 ▼



Christine, PO Box 673, Norwell MA 02061 🔻



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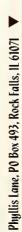
Denise W. Pa FWD2642



Monica Brown, PO Box 231, Lyons 0H 43533

Kelly Roberts, PO Box 1344, Groton CT 06340









Josephine, OH FWD2892 A



Kristen, San Diego, CA





Barbara. Pa. c/o Improper Attire, see pg 20 🛦

Put your name and mailing address on the back of your photo and we'll print it with your photo so people can write directly to you! See page 14 for how to respond.



Jenifer Delmonte (L.) & Tina Rapport (r.) at LIPS in NYC lacktriangle



INKOK IIKKOK



Diane Taylor, SE Pa. 🔻





Dani, Hawaii 🔺



Crissy, Colo. 🔻

Lois, VA FWD2809





Brenda, S. Dakota 🔻







Gracia 🔺









Alison, Colo.



Beverly, Mich. 🛕





René M. SoCal 🔻

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Island LODDESS















Jen Nelson, PO Box 6, New Lisbon, NJ 08064 🛦



Janet Powers, FWD312 🔺





Susan, Chicago, Ill.

Send your photos to LadyLike Magazine, PO Box 61263, King of Prussia, PA 19406. Sorry, photos cannot be returned.





PJ, Colo. A





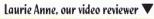
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Kay Andrea, PO Box 1534 A
Davenport, IA 52809



Gina, P0 Box 1812 ▲ Stow, OH 44224







Tina Howard, 3655 Hulmeville Rd #178, Bensalem, PA 19020 🛦



Johanna Parazino, PO Box 457, Garden City, NY 11530 🔺

Left to right: Jean, JoAnn Roberts, Marisa Richmond 🔻





Cindy Martin, editor/publisher Transgender Forum cindy@tgforum.com



Linda Buten, Ohio 🛦



Marlayna Lacie, SoCal 🛦

Penny Tatlock, PO Box 172, Yoncalla, OR 97499▼









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REVIEWS Crossdressing at the movies with Laurie Ann



In the post few years there have been a number of films with transgender themes or octors playing a transgendered person. The Crying Game; Priscilla, Queen of the Desert; To Wong Foo..., and M. Butterfly are recent releases that have achieved some degree of occlaim.

Although there ore many more transgender oriented films today, there have been a number of such films since the 1960s. Most were the efforts of independent film makers. Most were low budget and often had obvious technical and octing flows. Almost all of them had minor and very brief theotrical exposure and quickly foded from sight.

Mony of these holf-forgotten films have recently been transferred to video tope and ore ovailable from video sources that specialize in cult and obscure cinema. This column will review some of the lesser known films. You may find, as I have, that most of these films are not only fun and entertaining to wotch, but they also offer some interesting insights about one of our fovorite subjects — crossdressing.

Operation Fred

There have been many great female impersonators who, in their time, were highly respected and admired performers. There was Bert Stewart, considered one of the greatest, who sang grand opera in Spain in the early 1900's. There was Chi Pih Yung, regarded as the most famous male actress on the stage in China in the first quarter of this century. The list would not be complete without Francis Renault, Karyl Norman, Barbette, and perhaps the most famous American mimic, Julian Eltinge.

Unfortunately we have little to remember them by other than a few photos, anecdotes and faded memories recorded by some of their friends. Only Julian Eltinge appeared in films — a total of eleven, and all have been lost.

In the 60's and 70's there were a few films made with female impersonators playing supporting roles. Only a few of these films have been transferred to video tape.

Who are the "greats" of the recent past? Likely there would be considerable disagreement in compiling such a list. If one looks under "female impersonation" in theatrical encyclopedias there are two names consistently mentioned — Charles Pierce in the U.S. and Danny Larue in Great Britain. Only Danny Larue has starred in a feature film, the 1972 British film, Operation Fred, a.k.a., Our Miss Fred.

Danny Larue is regarded by many as not only a spectacu-



Frederica (Danny La Rue) trying to keep the officer from looking in the trunk.

lar performer and stage personality, but a significant figure in making drag a legitimate theatrical art form. The English drag artiste Foo Foo Lammar remarked, "The only person who brought drag forward is Danny; he made it respectable..." In the 1984 book *Men In Frocks*, the authors, Kris Kirk and Ed Heath, state, "Ask the queens what started the drag boom and many will answer simply, 'Danny.'"

Who is this remarkable performer named Danny Larue? Born in 1927 as Danny Carrol, he has spent almost his



Danny La Rue as Frederica

entire life in show business as a female mimic. He began his theatrical career as a mimic in an all male review after serving in the Royal Navy. After World War II all male reviews were very popular with general audiences in England. In America there were a variety of similar troupes. The most famous was the Jewel Box Review, which toured major cities in the United States.

Danny obtained his start in the chorus line of Forces Showboat, a review not unlike the Jewel Box Review. Forces Showboat was composed totally of ex-service men and the show toured England for several years.

In this group Danny stood out as the "girl with the fabulous frocks" and was characterized as the "spitting image of Heddy Lamarr." Thus, Danny's patented trademark of fabulous outfits and gowns was born.

In 1964 Danny was the star of his own show in a club on Hanover Square in London. The club became an "in place" for the famous to visit after Princess Margaret came to see his show, and Danny was on his way to becoming the fantastic performer he still is today, at age 70. In 1970 Danny had become Show Business Entertainer of The Year and Britain's highest paid entertainer. Not only has Danny achieved success in drag reviews, but he has played female roles in legitimate theater. He was featured in plays and skits on the BBC, one of which was *Charley's Aunt*. In 1984 he starred in a production of *Hello Dolly* and received accolades for his performance.

Danny has always disliked the term "female impersonation" and has made a considerable effort to distance himself from drag artistes. That is an attitude fairly typical of many successful mimics.

Operation Fred is a slapstick comedy, a simple farce with an absurd story line that is still fun and enjoyable

despite its shortcomings. It is set in the beginning of World War II in 1939 War has been declared and the German army is poised for the invasion of France. British forces are in France, but despite the rhetoric and posturing of the armies there is little happening.

Fred Windbush, played by Danny, is an actor. He has just been drafted into the British army. He protests, "I'm supposed to play *Hamlet* next week!" Upon arriving in France his commanding officer orders him into his "gear." It turns out his "gear" is a gown. Private Fred is the female star of a military show entertaining the troops. The show begins and we are introduced to Private Fred in his beautiful gown, and he appears to be a very lovely young woman. But, before the show can end, the German army arrives and Private Fred's unit is taken prisoner. The German officers assume that Fred is a woman, "The Wehrmacht does not make war on women." Private Fred wants to go with his unit but his commanding officer orders him to stay in drag and get back to England. So a bewigged Fred is left behind, looking glamorous in a lovely dress, heels and hose.

Thus begins the Private's adventures in trying to return to England through German held France. Along the way he teams up with a woman named Agatha, the headmistress of a finishing school — and five of her sexy school girls, who are also trying to reach England.

The headmistress is very protective of her girls, particularly where men are concerned. She regards all men as rapists and states, "The war gives men the chance to go raping away!" She and her five students fully assume that Private Fred, now called Frederica, is a woman.

Agatha's five young girls are secretly hiding a downed RAF Spitfire squadron commander named Smallpiece, played by Lance Perciville, a British comedian. He is a typical hypermasculine type and upon learning Frederica is really Private Fred he makes cracks about "feminine boys." Smallpiece, a name that is not without meaning, turns out to be a bumbling idiot. In fact all the soldiers, British and German, and their officers, are portrayed as sexually preoccupied and just plain dumb. Private Fred is the clever, intelligent, daring, and resourceful leader.

Fortunately for Frederica the headmistress has a trunk full of sophisticated outfits and wigs. Thus, she is able to make stylish costume and wig changes. I counted twenty different fabulous dresses and gowns, and several changes of hairstyle.

Along the way a German general, played by Alfred Marks (another English comedian), falls for Frederica. Our

continued page 34

hero/heroine manages to use "her" charms to manipulate him to obtain passes through German checkpoints.

Finally, they reach their destination, an airfield near Calais. In an absurd scene, with the girls throwing grenades and firing machine guns, Private Fred (now wearing a German officer's uniform) stops masses of German troops. Their subsequent escape is as absurd as the battle.

By now the headmistress and her girls know that Frederica is really Private Fred. Back in England the headmistress says, "That was a wicked masquerade, but we couldn't have made it without you. Even though you're not a woman, you should have been one."

But, our Private is not home free. His superiors have decided that he has done such a good job as a woman that he should be sent back as Frederica to act as a secret British agent. Despite his protests Frederica returns to the war zone. In the film's final scene Frederica, wearing a beautiful gown, is seen singing in a cabaret filled with German officers. One of them is the German general played by Alfred Marks. His mouth is watering as Frederica seductively smiles at him.

Operation Fred is a silly, funny film created to showcase Danny Larue's talent and fabulous wardrobe. It is full of sexual innuendo, some of which is quite funny and clever.

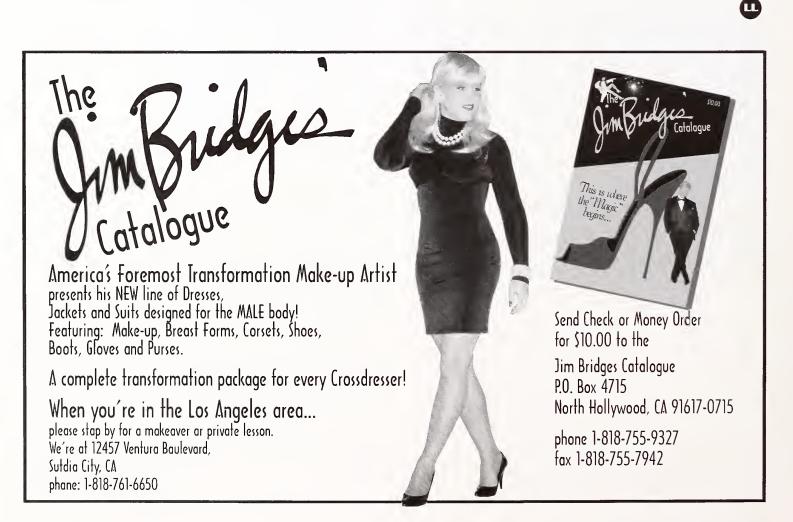
Danny is at his best, and seeing him model his incredible wardrobe is worth the effort of obtaining this film.

The story line reflects a typical CD fantasy. The hero finds himself in a situation requiring that he assume a female persona. He rather quickly finds he is adept at the deception and becomes a hero. His skills are such that he is expected to continue in the female role he has created. The only fantasy element missing is a romantic affair with a beautiful woman and her encouragement of his feminine persona.

Operation Fred is a film most every CD will enjoy. Unfortunately, I don't have a source where this film can be obtained. I'm indebted to Laurie Sherrel from Memphis, Tennessee, for loaning me her Beta cassette of Operation Fred. I've been told this film is available at some video stores so check the one in your neighborhood. In the meantime we'll keep looking for a source and we'll let you know when we find it.

Your suggestions and comments are always appreciated. Write me c/o LadyLike.

Next time! We begin a series of reviews on transsexual themes in film. The first review — the pioneering film based on Geoff Brown's transsexual classic: *I Want What I Want*. Don't miss it.





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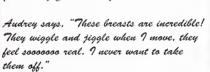
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Resources

U.S. Support Groups

Our listings are the most up-to-date. Please keep us informed of any changes or additions. Thanks!

National US Membership Organizations

American Educational Gender Information Service, PO Box 35724, Decatur, GA 30033-0724. Publishes Chrysalis, AEGISNews, and several pamphlets on transgender issues. Also book sales. Extensive referral network for all transgender issues. Phone: 770-939-212S. Call in evening. AEGIS is a 501[c][3] non-profit membership organization affiliated with Renaissance aegis@mindspring.com http://www.cren.org/rafil/AEGIS.html

International Foundation for Gender Education, 123 Moody St., Waltham, MA 02154. Publishes Transgender Tapestry (\$40/year subscription). Reprints and books on TV/TS subjects, other info. Hosts annual conference in different locations around the country. Phone: 617-899-2212. < ifge@world.std.com> < http://www.transgender.org/tg/ifge/>

Renaissance Education Association, Inc., 987 Old Eagle School Rd., Suite 719, Wayne, Pa. 19087. 610-975-9119 24 hr. answering machine, but phones are answered personally on Monday and Thursday evenings. Membership fee of \$24 includes a 24-page monthly newsletter Renaissance News & Views. Also publishes Background Papers and Community Outreach Bulletins on transgender issues for personal and professional use. Speakers available for classroom, corporate, or media discussions of transgender issues. Renaissance currently has four chapters and seven affiliates. Affiliates are noted with "(!)" in the list below. Renaissance is a 501[c][3] non-profit membership organization. <angela@ren.org> <ahttp://www.ren.org>

Society for the Secand Self (SSS), Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275. Focused on families and relationships. Tri-Ess publishes the Femme Mirror quarterly and hosts an annual convention. Tri-Ess chapters are marked with "#" in the list below. Tri-Ess is a non-profit membership organization. cjeftris@aol.com> < http://www.firstnethou.com/</pre>

Alaska

Alaska T People, c/o Bobbie Wendy Tucey, P.O. Box 670349, Chugiak, 99567

Arizona

Alpha Zeta#, PO Box 1738, Tempe, 85280-1738. Phone: 602-488-0959; Email to kyle@goodnet.com

Evolvere: welcoming CD/ TS/ TG/ gay or straight or in-between. Phone: (520) 884-0541

Tau Upsilon#, 8802 E Broadway Blvd. #145, Tucson, 85710. Phone: (520) 296-3472.

Califarnia

Alpha Chapter#, PO Box 36091, Los Angeles, 90036.

American Transsexual Educartion Center: A.T.E.C, 1626 N. Wilcox Ave, #584, Hollywood CA 90028 Amanda Silvestri, Dir., Phone: (213) 389-6938.

Androgyny, PO Box 480740, Los Angeles, 90048, Phone in L.A.: 213-467-8317; in Riverside: 909-360-5584. Or email to Shirley@earthlink.net

Androgyny East, Inland Empire area. Meets once a week. Call 909-737-5889 ask for Sara, or e-mail tomichelle@pe.net

Born Free, PO Box 1897, Corona, 91718.

CD SOCIAL GROUP, P O Box 224, Montrose CA 91021.

CHIC, PO Box 8487, Long Beach, 90808.

Diablo Valley Girls, PO Box 272885, Concord, 94527-2885. Phone: (510) 937-8432, http://www.best.com/~rwr13/.dvg/

ETVC, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, 94142-6486, http://www.transgender.org/tg/etvc/etvc1.htm>.

Gender Awareness League, c/o Grace Bredow, P O Box 46062, Los Angeles CA 90046.

Gender Expressions, P O Box 816, Lakewood, CA 90714-0816. Phone: (310) 869-4241

Ladies Knight Out, P O Box 19608-179, Irvine CA 92713, Heterosexual crossdressing couples' support group. Phone: (714) 262-9105.

Neutral Corner, P O Box 12581, San Diego CA 92112. Phone: (619) 685-3696, http://users.aol.com/nutrlcrnr/nutrlcrnr.html

Omega Chi# (Orange County, CA), P O Box 1088, Yorba Linda CA 92686.

Pathfinders, SoCal SO Support group, http://members.aol.com/ptfinders/pathfind.htm>.

Powder Puffs of California, PO Box 1088, Yorba Linda, 92686, http://www.ren.org/rafil/ ppoc.html>.

PSGV Transgendered Support , 401 South Main Street, Suite 104, Pomona CA 91765. Phone: (909) 620-8987

Rainbow Gender Alliance, PO Box 700730, San Jose, 95170-0730, http://www.transgender.org/tg/rga/rgapage.html.

Sacramento Gender Assoc., PO Box 215456, Sacramento, 95821. email to ava4sga@aol.com

San Francisco Gender Information ,SFGI, P0Box 423602, San Francisco CA 94142-3602

San Joaquin Gender Assoc., 1141 Catalina Drive Box 163, Livermore CA 94550. Phone: (510) 447-9920.

Sigma Sigma Beta#, PO Box 19933, So. Lake Tahoe, 96151.

Swan's Inner Sorority, P O Box 1423, San Jose CA 95109. Phone: (408) 297-1423

TGIF, meets in Santa Rosa. Call Diane at 707-544-1540 or email to: gad@crl.com

Transsexual Support Group, The Center Long Beach, 2017 East 4th Street, Long Beach, CA. 90814, email to Nowlmjenn@aol.com

Thursday Irregulars, c/o Joan Sheldon, P O Box 6541, San Jose CA 95150-6541.

Tri Chi#, P O Box 194, Tulare CA 93275. Phone: 209) 688-9246.

Calarada

Delta#, PO Box 16208, Denver, 80216. Phone: (303) 595-5TRI, or email to: mystie@aol.com.

Gender Identity Center, Inc., 1455 Ammons Street, Suite 100, Lakewood, CO 80215-4993, email to: kathyw@fortnet.org, http://www.transgender.org/tg/gic/index.html

Phoenix Project 1740 South Buckley Road, #6-178, Aurora CO 80017.

Teenage Kids of TSs, TAKOTS, c/o Laurie Ciccotello, 1740 S. Buckley Road #6-178, Aurora CO 80017.

Connecticut

Connecticut Outreach Society, PO Box 163, Farmington, 06034. Phone (203) 657-4344, email to karacder@aol.com.

connecticuTView (!), PO Box 2281, Devon, 06460. Email MasonD@aol.com.

Twenty (XX) Club Inc.(for TS only), PO Box 387, Hartford, 06141-0387, http://www.intelleng.com/xx.html.

Images, P O Box 666, Thompson CT 06241-0666. Phobe: (203) 779-9708 (voice and FAX)

Gender Identity Clinic of New England, GICNE, 68 Adelaide Road, Manchester CT 06040. Clinton R. Jones, Director. Phone: 203-646-8651, http://www.intelleng.com/gicne.html

Delawar

Renaissance Delaware Chapter, PO Box 5656, Wilmington, 19808

District of Columbia

TADD, Transgenders Against Discrimination in the District, c/o HCC, 813 L. Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003. Phone: 202-543-6777.

Florida

Animas, P O Box 420309, Miami 33242.

Eden Society, PO Box 1692, Pompano Beach, 33061-1692. Phone: (954) 316-8470.

Enchante', c/o J.L. Hores, 1801 69th Ave.South, St. Petersburg 33712. Phone: (813) 972-2617 (Kerry TS), (813) 866-0438 (Joe).

Enchante', Clearwater area. Call Jackie (813) 845-0284 or leave message.

Gamma Chi Beta#, Gulf Coast Belles, PO Box 510045, Punta Gorda, FL 33951-0045.

Pathways, PO Box 51462, Ft. Myers, 33905. Phone: 941-693-1136. Email to: PathwaysFL@aol.com

Phi Epsilon Mu#, PO Box 3261, Winter Park, 32790-3261. Phone: 407-382-8389

Serenity, PO Box 307, Hollywood, 33022. Phone: (954) 436-9477.

Starburst, P O Box 17411, Clearwater 34622-0411, Phone: 813-523-8760, http://users.aol.com/ashleyar/html/starbrst.html>.

TLC#/Pantra, P O Box 3426, Tallahassee 32315-3426. Email to petrad@freenet.tlh.fl.us.

Transgeneration, Address TBA, Gasinesville. Phone: 352-6162, 10 AM -midnight, Sun & Dry; Sat, email to cdflgyl@fdt.net.

Geargia

AGE(!), PO Box 77562, Atlanta, 30357, Ph: 770-435-4203, http://www.transgender.org/tg/age/>.

Sigma Epsilon#, PO Box 272, Rosewell, 30077-0272, Ph: 770-552-4415, http://pages.prodigy.com/kerricd/sigep.htm.

Hawaii

Hawaii Transgender Outreach, PO Box 4530, Honolulu, 96812. Phone: (808) 923-4270.

Idah

Boise Bloomers, c/o Elizabeth P., 582 E. Boise Ave,

Box 153, Boise ID. 83706, Phone: (208)388-3864 or email to: Liz@rmci.net

lawa

owa Artistry, PO Box 75, Cedar Rapids, 52406, or email to scottm@ins.infonet.net, http://www.netins.net/showcase/chrisa/jowa.html>.

River City Gender Alliance, RCGA, P O Box 680, Council Bluffs IA 51502. Phone: 402-398-1255.

Illinais

Central Illinois Gender Assoc., PO Box 182, Washington, 61517. Phone: (309) 444-9918.

Chi#, PO Box 40, Wood Dale, 60191-0040. Phone: (708) 262-8707, http://users.aol.com/chitriess/trisss/chimain.htm

Chicago Gender Society, PO Box 578005, Chicago, 60657, Phone: (708) 863-7714, http://www.transgender.org/tg/cgs/cgsmain.html>.

The Sunday Society , P O Box 478850, Chicago IL 60647. Phone: (312) 486-3125 or (312) 252-7024.

Indiana

IXE, PO Box 20710, Indianapolis, 46220. Phone: (317) 781-0834 (Indianapolis), (812) 398-6235 (Shelbyville), or email to ixe@aol.com.

Shrinking Violets, Att: Linda BB, PO Box 425, Carmel 46032. Phone: (317) 781—0834 (Ask for Angela), or email to kaylin@iquest.net.

T.O.N.I., Transgender Outreach of Northern Indiana, Ltd, PO Box 132, Portage, IN. Phone: 219-929-8533 or email TO tiffanyk1@juno.com.

Kansas

KC Crossdressers & Eriends, PO Box 4092, Overland Park, 66204. Phone: (913) 791-3847

Wichita Transgender Alliance, 6831, Wichita, KS 67216. Email to LaylaJ@AOL.com.

Kentucky

Bluegrass Belles, c/o Anne Casebeer, PO Box 20173, Louisville, Ky 40250. Or email to Dwils00@ukcc.uky.edu.

Louisville Gender Society, Box 5458, Louisville, 40255. Phone: (812) 944-5570 http://www.ccs.uky.edu/~don/indextg.html.

lauisiana

Gulf Gender Alliance(!), PO Box 870213, New Orleans, 70187-1300. Phone: (504) 833-3046.

Maine

Maine Gender Resource & Support, c/o Jean Churchill, PO Box 1894, Bangor ME 04402-1894.

Outreach Institute, 405 Western Ave., #345, So. Portland, 04330. Phone: (205) 775-085S.

Transsupport, PO Box 17622, Portland, 04101.

Maryland

The Bridge Club, c/o Michelle Gerald, P O Box 11737, Baltimore MD 21206-0337.

Transgender Support Group of Baltimore, c/o Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 241 W. Chase St., Baltimore MD 21201. Phone: (410) 837-5445.

Tri-State Transgendered Club, c/o Diane Terrant, P O Box 3102, Deer Park MD 21550-1002. Phone:

Washington - Baltimore Alliance c/o R. Lewis, Box

Resources

1994, Silver Spring Maryland, 20915. Email to HGarfin725@aol.com.

Massachusetts

ASSET (After Surgery Support Exchange for Transsexuals), PO Box 3121, Greenfield, 01302, or email to asset@crocker.com.

AXA, PO Box 380547, Cambridge MA 02238.

Berkshire Alternatives, PO Box 508, North Adams, 01247.

Gender Identity Support Services for Transsexuals, (G.I.S.S.T.) Phone: (617) 720-3413.

Getting Real, PO Box 194, West Newton, 02165.

Innvestments , (Cape Cod area), PO Box 2194, Orleans, 02653.

The Myriad Network, PO Box 288, Williamstown, 01267.

Reflections, PO Box 4002, East Dedham, 02026.

Sunshine Club, c/o Roberta Steel, PO Box 149, Hadley, 01035-0149.

Tiffany Club of New England, Inc., PO Box 2283, Woburn, 01888-0483. Phone: (617) 891-9325

Transgendered Alliance, (TGA), PO Box 38-1005, Cambridge, 02238.

Wayland house, PO Box 3128, Shawseen, 01810

Michigan

Crossroads, PO Box 1245, Royal Oak, 48068-1245. Phone: (313) 537-3267

1ME of Western Michigan, PO Box 1153, Grand Rapids, 49501.

Northwest Michigan Gender Society, c/o Tricia Marie Benton, PO Box 271, Petoskey, 49770.

Minnesota

Beta Gamma#, PO Box 8591, Minneapolis, 55408.

CLCC, PO Box 14844, Minneapolis, 55414-0844. Phone: (612) 229-3613.

MFGE, PO Box 17945, St. Paul, 55117. Phone: (612) 220-9072 (voicemail).

New Men & Women of Minnesota, PO Box 6432, Minneapolis, 55406-0432. Phone: (612) 220-1920.

Mississippi

Beta Chi#, PO Box 31253, Jackson, 39286-1253. Phone: (601) 982-7678 (24 hrs).

Missouri

St. Louis Gender Foundation, PO Box 9433, St. Louis, 63117, Phone: (314) 367-4128. Email toStLGF@aol.com, http://www.transgender.org/tg/stlgf/index.html.

Nebraska

River City Gender Alliance, P. O. Box 3112, Omaha 68103-3112. Phone: 402-398-1255, or email to sgibbons@synergy.net.

Nevada

Silver Rose Gender Association.Contact, Lynda Cheney, P.O. Box 1334 Carson City, NV, 89702 or email to lyndach@aol.com.

Theta Upsilon Gamma#, PO Box 91871, Henderson, 89009-1871. Email to sage@intermind.net, http://www.intermind.net/theta/theta.html.

Transsexual Support Group, c/o Community Counseling Center, 1120 Almond Tree Lane, Las Vegas.

New Hampshire

GT North, A support group with monthly meetings and a newsletter available. Contact 603-924-8828 or

email to Careycl@aol.com.

New Jersey

Chi Delta Mu#, PO Box 1, River Edge, 07661-0001. Phone: (201) 439-9618, or email to cdm@carroll.com.

JUMPSTART, PO Box 622, Paramus, 07653. Email to chatchka@haven.ios.com, http://haven.ios.com/~chatchka/jumpstrt.html>.

MOTG(!), PO Box 8243, Red Bank, 07701. Phone: (908) 219-9094, or email Vikkimmotg@aol.com.

Renaissance New Affiliate Startup (Titusville area) - contact Terri Risley at (609) 933-2233.

Sigma Nu Rho#, PO Box 9255, Trenton, 08650. Phone: 800-480-3152.

New Mexico

Phi (Fiesta!)#, 8200 Montgomery NE, #241, Albuquerque, 87109. Phone: (505) 299-2533.

New York

TV self-help group meets 2nd Monday of month from 6 - 8 PM in Lower Manhattan. Contact Lynda Frank at 212-765-3561.

Buffalo Belles#, NuPhiChi, PO Box 1701, Amherst, 14226. Phone: (716) 643-2626.

CD-Network, PO Box 92055, Rochester, 14692. Phone: (716) 251-2132.

EON Inc., PO Box 3586, Syracuse, NY 13220-3586. Phone: (315) 431-9606.

Gender Identity Project, Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 West 13th Street, New York, 10011. Phone: (212) 620-7310.

Imperial Queens & Kings of New York, Suite 301, 80 Eighth Ave, Manhattan, New York, 10011. Phone: 212-627-1969 (NY), 516-386-1383 (LI), 201-584-7644 (NY)

Lambda Chi Lambda#, PO Box 1010, Cooperstown, 13326. Phone: (607) 547-4118, or email to StuComOne@aol.com.

L.I.F.E., PO Box 3015, Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779. Phone: (516) 283-1333, or email to lt.cvs@ix.netcom.com, http://members.aol.com/Lifegroup.

Metropolitan Gender Network(!), 561 Hudson St., Box 45, New York, 10014. Phone: (201) 794-1665 ext. 332, or (718) 461-9050.

New York GIRL & Partner(!), PO Box 456, Centereach, 11720. Phone: (516) 732-5115 (call after 10PM), or email to alt.cvs@ix.netcom.com.

Syracuse Transgender Society: Contact: Charliss Dolge (315) 422-6220, Charliss@dreamscape.com.

TGIC, PO Box 13604, Albany, 12212-3604. Phone: (518) 436-4513

North Carolina

Kappa Beta#, c/o PO Box 12101, Charlotte, 28220-2101. Phone: (704) 565-5034, or email to dajones@InfoAve.net (Diane Jones).

Phoenix Transgender Support, PO Box 18332, Asheville, 28814. Phone: (704) 259-9428.

Triad Gender Assoc., PO Box 2264, Jamestown 27282-2264. Phone: 910-454-1493, or email todula@nr.infi.net.

Ohio

Alpha Omega#, PO Box 2053, Sheffield Lake, 44054-0053. Phone: (216) 556-0067.

Cross-Port, PO Box 1692, Cincinnati OH 45201-1692. Phone: (606) 581-3711, email to WGBN68D@prodigy.com. Crystal Club, PO Box 287, Columbus, 43068. Phone: (614) 231-1368, or email to cc@stargate.com, http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/4398/

Glass City Sisters, PO Box 8532, Toledo, 43623. Paradise Club, PO Box 29564, Parma, 44129. Email

Paradise Club, PO Box 29564, Parma, 44129. Emai to paradisedi@aol.com.

Oklahoma

Central Oklahoma Transgender Alliance, (COTA), PO Box 60354, Oklahoma City, 73146.

Sooner Diversity(!), PO Box 575, Norman, 73070

Oregon

Choices and Voices, 212 High St., Salem, Oregon 97303. Contact: (503) 373-4415, Allie or Gwen or email to pcb4reb@sprynet.com.

Intermountain Transgender Outreach, 1524 Monroe Avenue, La Grande. Phone: 541-963-9718, or email tokeol@eosc.osshe.edu, http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/1665

Phoenix Rising Foundation, The Trans Group (for TS/TG/TV and questioning youth) & Transsexual Peer Support Group, 620 SW 5th Ave., Suite 710, Portland, Oregon 97204. Phone: (503) 223-8299.

North West Gender Alliance, PO Box 4928, Portland, 97208. Phone: (503) 646-2802.

Trans-Port, PO Box 66913, Portland, 97290. Phone: (503) 774-8463.

Capital City Chapter, PO Box 3312, Salem, OR 97302 (please include an SSAE).

Pennsylvania

Pony Express, 1903 W. 8th St., Erie PA 16505-5936

The Gender Group of Pittsburgh at the Persad Center, 5150 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15232. Contact Cheryl at: 412-362-1638 Or E-Mail unicom@nb.net, http://www.nb.net/~unicom/tgg.html.

OASIS, PO Box 622, Meadville, 16335.

Phila. TS Support Group, PO Box 15839, Philadelphia PA 19103. Phone: (215) 567-7879.

Renaissance GPC, Greater Phila. Chapter, 987 Old Eagle School Rd., Suite 719, Wayne, 19087. Phone: (610) 975-9119, or email to bensalem@cpcn.com, http://www.ren.org/>.

Renaissance LSV, Lower Susquehanna Valley Chapter, PO Box 2122, Harrisburg, 17105. Phone: (717) 780-1578. Email to lsv@ezonline.com.

Renaissance LV, Lehigh Valley Chapter, PO Box 3624, Allentown, PA 18106. Call 610-821-2955 for directions or email to MonaLaura@AOL.com.

TransFamily, c/o Deni Scott, 962 Rockdale Road, Butler, PA 16001. Phone: 412-758-3578 (Janet), or email to dscott@pgh.net.

TSG (Transsexual Support Group), 6020 Penn Circle South, Pittsburgh, 15206. Phone: (412) 661-7030, or email to tsg@usaor.net.

Transpitt, PO Box 3214, Pittsburgh, 15230. Phone: (412) 231-1181.

Tennessee

Alpha Pi Omega#, PO Box 784, Brentwood, 37204-0784, http://members.aol.com/apotris/aponash.htm

Tennessee Vals, PO Box 92335, Nashville, 37209. Phone: 664-6883, http://www.transgender.org/tg/tvals/index.html.

Memphis TransGender Alliance, P.O. Box 11052, Memphis, TN 38111-0052

TV/TS Support Group, c/o Rev. John Prowett, 1517

Court Street, Suite #4, Memphis, 38104-2402.

Texas

Austin Second Image, PO Box 14965, Austin, 78761. Phone: (512) 515-5460 Wed. 7-9pm.

Boulton & Park Society, PO Box 17, Bulverde, 78163. Phone: (210) 980-7788

GCTC, PO Box 90335, Houston, 77090. Phone: (713) 780-GCTC, (713) 780-4282 voice.

HCDA (Helping CDs Anon.), 6804 E Hwy 6 S #334, 77083. Email to brenda@firstnethou.com.

Metroplex CD Club/Delta Omega#, PO Box 141924, Irving, 75014. Phone: (214) 264-7103, or email todomiss@flash.net,http://www.flash.net/~domega>.

Nu Epsilon Tau#, PO Box 14096, Pantego, 76094. Phone: (214) 490-5738, http://www.cyberhighway.net/~rpdig/net/>.

ReCast, PO Box 224001, Dallas, 75222-4001.

Texas Assoc. of Transsexuals (TATs), PO Box 142, Bellaire, 77401. Phone: (713) 827-5913 voice mail.

Tau Chi#, PO Box 1105, Alief, 77411. Email to TRISINFO@aol.com.

TS-Peer Support, c/o Alice Webb, MSW, Atrium Crest Blg., 18333 Egret Bay Blvd., Ste 560, Houston TX 77058. Phone: (713) 333-2278.

West Texas Gender Alliance c/o Tami Maloney, PO Box 6726, Abilene TX 79608.

Utah

Salt Lake Gender Consortium, PO Box 651073, Salt Lake City, 84165. Email to: watsonlaw@aol.com

Reflection House, PO Box 628, Pleasant Grove, 84062. Phone/FAX: (801) 224-4737.

Virginio

Hampton Roads Transgender Outreach (HRTO), PO Box 61606, Virginia Beach, VA 23466-1606. Our contact phone is: (757) 627-4652.

Metro Area Gender Alliance MAGA, PO Box 16036, Arlington, 22215. Phone: (301) 949-3822.

TransGender Education Association (TGEA), P.O. Box 16036, Arlington, Virginia 22215. Phone: (301) 949-3822 or email to: TGEA@aol.com.

Virginia's Secret, P.O. Box 14716, Richmond 23220. Phone: 804-262-3906, or email to vasecret@juno.com.

Washington

Emerald City, PO Box 31318, Seattle, 98103. Phone: (206) 284-1071, http://members.aol.com/ theemcty/index.htm>

Futurebuilders, c/o April Bresgal, N. 111 Cedar St., Spokane, WA 99201. Phone: 509-456-2517.

Ingersoll Gender Center, 1812 E. Madison, Suite 106, Seattle, 98122-2843, http://www.halcyon.com/ingersol/iiihome.html.

West Virginia

The Valley Girls, PO Box 181, Dunbar, 25064-0181. Email to:brwtvg1@aol.com.

Trans-WV, PO Box 2322, Huntington, 25724.

Wisconsi

Gemini Gender Group, PO Box 44211, Milwaukee, 53214. Phone: (414) 297-9328 (voicemail).

Wyoming

Central WY Transgender Support Group, P.O. Box 1301, Evansville, WY 82636-1301

Resources

Canadian Support Groups

Canada

Alberta

Phi Sigma#, PO Box 81115, 755 Lake Bonavista Dr SE, Calgary, T2J 7C9.

Illusions Social Club, PO Box 2000, Calgary, T2C 1B4. Phone: +1 (403) 236-7072.

Illusions Social Club II, PO Box 33002, Edmonton, T5P 4V8.

British Columbia

Dream Girls, P.O. Box 535, Kamloops, V2C 5L7. Combury Society, PO Box 3745, Vancouver, V6B 3Z1, Phone: 604-415-2767. Foundation for the Advancement of Trans-Gendered People's Society (FATE) 1-1727 William Street, Vancouver, V5L 2R5. Phone: +1 (604) 254-9591.

Transsexual Support Group, 14905 32nd Avenue, White Rock, V4P 1A4. Phone: +1 (604) 536-2053.

Zenith Foundation, 8415 Granville Street, PO Box 46. Vancouver. V6P 4Z9.

Manitoba

Prairie Rose Gender Club, PO Box 23 Grp 4 RR1, Dugald, ROE OKO. Phone: +1 (204) 257-2759.

Ontario

Canadian Cross Dressers Club, c/o Wildside, 161 Gerrard St. E, Toronto M5A 2E4. Phone: +1 (416) 921-6112, or email to <info@wildside.org>.

Gender Metaphor, 829 Northwest Road, Suite 715, Kingston, Ontario K7P-2N3. <genmet@adan.kingston.net>.

Gender Mosaic, PO Box 7421, Ottawa, K1L 8E4. Phone: +1 (819) 770-1945.

Transition Support, c/o The Church Street Community Centre, 519 Church Street, Toronto, M4Y 2C9.

Xpressions, P.O. Box 223, Station A, Toronto, M5W 1B2, Voice mail: +1 (416) 812-6879.

Quehec

Club MET, 4113 Dorion St., Montreal, H2K 3B8. Phone: +1 (514) 528-8874

Etre Femme, Quebec Transexual Association Inc., 84 Boul. des Allies.

Quebec G1L 1Y2. Phone: +1 (418) 529-1152.

FACT - Quebec, PO Box 293, 5858 Cote-de-Neiges Boulevard, Montreal, H3S 2S6.

TransPORRS (Post Op Recovery Residence), 475 Blvd Gouin Ouest, Montreal, H3L 1K4.

THE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June '97

1 - 8, 27th Annual Boston Pride Celebration. Contact Boston Pride Committee, 398 Columbus Ave., Suite 221, Boston, MA 02116. Phone: 617-450-8679.

3,1997 New England Transgender Health Conference, Contact GISST at 14 Beacon St, Suite 620, Boston, MA 02180. Phone: 617-720-3413.

4 - 8, Be All... Weekend, in Chicago, Il. Contact Chi-Chapter, PO Box 40, Wood Dale IL, 60191-0040 or phone 630-262-8707 (Evenings), or email to chitriess@aol.com.

6-8, Home Is Where The Heart Is, A Bed and Breakfast weekend retreat designed for TS couples seeking coping skills to enhance their relationship. Contact Dr. Alycia Ellison at aellison@peganet.com.

8, 1997 Philadelphia Pride Day, Diversity of Pride, 262 S 12th St., #404, Phila, PA 19107, 215-351-5315, or email to volzcf@aol.com.

8, 22nd Annual San Jose Pride Celebration, at Guadalupe River Park. Contact the Pride Celebration Committee 408-235-1034.

8, 15th Annual PrideFest Celebration, Royal Oak Michingan at Oakland Community College. Contact SE Michigan Pride at 810-825-6651

19 - 22, 2nd International Congress on Crossdressing, Sex & Gender Issues, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Complete details from Renaissance.

22, Renaissance Education Assoc.,

Inc., Tenth Anniversary celebration in conjunction with the 2nd International Congress on Crossdressing, Sex & Gender Issues, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. A special celebration banquet on Saturday night June 22, 1997 with guest speaker Kate Bornstein. Cost is \$37 per person. Contact Renaissance.

29, 1997 Columbus Stonewall Freedom March & GayFest, Columbus, OH in Bicentennial Park. Contact Stonewall Community Center 614-299-7764, email to stnwall@ix.netcom.com.

July '97

11 & 12, TRANSGEN '97; International Conference on Transgender Law & Employment Policy, San Antonio, TX. Contact DeeMCkellr@aol.com.

16 - 20, Fifth Annual Spouses Partners International Conference for Education (SPICE), Ontario Airport Hilton, 700 N Haven Ave, Ontario, Calif. 91764. Call the hotel directly for reservations, 800-654-1379. For information about SPICE, contact Peggy Rudd, PO Box 5304, Katy, Texas 77491-5304, or call Mary Jane at 915-343-1953 or email to melpeg@phoenixnet.com.

August '97

3 - 10, Dignity Cruise VIII with Dr. Peggy Rudd and the gender gifted and their significant others sailing to Alaska on the LEGEND OF THE SEAS. For more information or reservations call Brenda at 1-800-247-7021.

8 - 10, Out & Equal Workplace

Issues Conference, Radisson Hotel, Niagria Falls, NY. Mark your calendars now and stay tuned for more information. For more information, please contact: Sheryl Robertson 415-834-2262 or email to sarobertson@lucent.com.

8 - 10, The 3rd FTM Conference of the Americas, Massachusettes College of Art, Boston, MA. Cost: \$50 before June, 1, 1997; \$70 at the door. E-Mail: IFGE@world.std.com. Snail Mail: Information ATTN: Mykael, Boston FTM Conference, P.O. Box 229, Waltham, MA 02254-0229

8 - 10, Home Is Where The Heart Is, A Bed and Breakfast weekend retreat designed for TS couples seeking coping skills to enhance their relationship. Contact Dr. Alycia Ellison at aellison@peganet.com.

September '97

4-7, Rites of Passage 7, Guerneville, Calif., contact Wendy Kaiser, 246 Lebanon Road North, Berwick, Maine 03906. Phone: 207-676-5870, or email to WKaiser@aol.com.

18-21, Paradise In The Poconos Spring 97 crossdresser's getaway weekend. Spouses and partners are very welcome to attend. See ad on page 44.

October '97

2-5 Southern Comfort, Atlanta, Contact Southern Comfort Convention, P.O. Box 77591 Atlanta, GA 30357. Phone: (404) 633-6470 or email to SCCatl@aol.com.

9 - 12, 3rd Annual OutCharlotte Cultural Festival, Charlotte, NC. Contact OutCharlotte at 704-563-2699.

19-26, Fantasia Fair, Provincetown, Mass. (Cape Cod). Contact FanFair Registrar at PO Box 2734, Boston, MA 02208.

24 - 26, Genders, Bodies, Borders, sponsored by the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies at the University of Michigan. For info, contact Jayne London by email at <jplondon@umich.edu> or by phone at 313-647-6341.

30 - 11/2, Fall Harvest 97, in Omaha Nebraska (see page 35 for ad).

November '97

12 - 16, Holiday En Femme, at the Holiday Inn, in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, just east of Philadelphia. Hotel rates will be \$69/night (double). Inquiries should be addressed as follows: Holiday En Femme 97, c/o SIGMA NU RHO, 1092 St. Georges Ave., Ste. 234, Rahway NJ 07065. Voice/Fax: 908-826-5287.

If you have information about an event that you'd like us to post here and online, please write to us at the CDS office or send email to us at: <info@cdspub.com>

The art of Walking In Extreme Heels

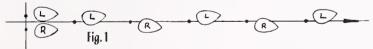
Written and Compiled by Stephen M. Noonan - Proprietor of Shoecraft, Victoria, Australia.

This article is written for both complete novices and experienced wearers of extreme heels. The more experienced among you can disregard any steps or points you may have already mastered.

1. Purchase several pairs of heels of slightly different heights. The first pair should be the highest that you can manage comfortably and the second pair with a heel up to ½" higher. Make sure the shoes fit properly, i.e., not too tight or too loose. First purchases can be made from second hand shops to save

money. Once one has graduated to 5" heels footwear will have to be purchased from specialist shops.

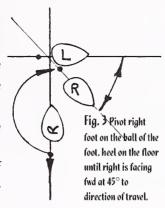
2. Practice in your lounge room or on a carpeted floor, with the footwear that you can manage easily, by walking back and forth-taking care to walk mainly on the balls of your feet. Take smallish steps and place one foot in front of the other with toes pointing slightly outwards (see Fig. 1). Steps should be light and keep body and head upright with eyes looking directly ahead.

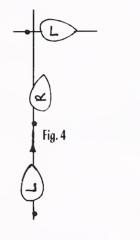


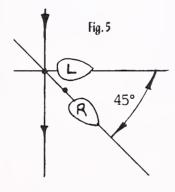
3. After mastering Step 2 we move onto a 180° (½) turn. Dependent on the direction of the turn (i.e., left or right), the opposite foot moves first. First practice the turn starting with both feet together, place one foot at 90° to the direction of

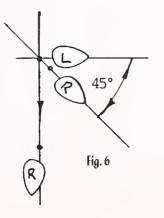
travel (Fig. 2 right turn shown).

Draw right foot into the bridge of the left foot with right heel off the floor. Top of the heel (where heel joins the shoe) of the right shoe touching the inside of the left ankle. Raise right foot onto the left side of the sole and keep right knee well over to the left. This is called the Mannequin Stance, practice both sides so one can turn easily on either foot.









4. After mastering Steps 2 & 3, they are combined by walking as in Step 2, and when one wishes to make a 180° turn we include step 3 as shown in Fig 4. When Fig 5 is reached, step off with front foot (Fig 6).

As confidence and competence improves, increase heel heights by up to ½" until you are able to walk, turn and maneuver easily in the highest heels possible. Then try all the above on a hard surface, i.e., tiled or wooden floor, or outside on a footpath, as it is far more difficult to walk on a hard surface.

Having mastered the above you are ready to venture into the outside world. Be sure that you are competent in the footwear you intend to wear out, and try to arrive as near as possible to your destination unless you are very proficient walking in extreme heels. NB: this differs from person to person.

Once a 5" is mastered and one wishes to wear heels of 6"-7" in height, or wear ballet toe footwear, purchase footwear with up to ½" higher heels and repeat all of the above steps. The higher the heel the smaller the steps one must take, i.e., .6" heels and above require you to place one foot directly in front of the other. With practice most people are capable of walking in 5" heels, bearing in mind that sizes 4 or 5 UK (5 or 6 US) with

continued on page 40



a 5" heel are almost the equivalent of a 6" heel in a larger size due to the angle of the arch.

Those with Ballet training are generally able to handle 6" heels or above without difficulty. Hike to think that readers of this article are true aficionados of extreme stiletto heels and will dedicate themselves to improving their deportment in these wonderful sexy items. Remember practice makes perfect, and good luck.

Additional Hints For Walking In Extreme Heels.

• I have found from experience that some brands of footwear are harder than others to walk in (probably due to the shape of the arch and the last) even though the heel heights may be the same. Choose footwear that suits you.

• Boots and lace up shoes probably present the most difficulties due to the fact that they really hold the ankle and instep tightly and don't allow the foot to move freely.

• Start your high heel experience with plain court shoes (pumps) as they offer plenty of support without locking up the ankle (see above). Sling backs, sandals and mules offer

less support and they require much more concentration so as not to stumble, go over on your ankle, or lose a shoe.

• Always make sure your footwear fits correctly. You should not be able to fit your little finger in between your heel and the heel of the shoe. On the other hand footwear too tight will only make your high heel experience extremely painful as well as making it almost impossible to walk correctly, as well as having the potential to cause injuries to your feet. Remember a court shoe should grip your foot snugly but not tightly. Bear in mind that Patent Leather footwear will not stretch as much as a leather calf.

• When wearing extreme heels, to prevent the foot from sliding down into the shoe or boot and scrunching up the toes, causing all your body weight to be taken on the toes, place a piece of double sided tape on the inside of your shoes where the ball of the foot rests.

• Remember to look after your feet, i.e., have foot baths and massages. Use skin cream. I call this preventative maintenance.

• Do as ballet dancers do to strengthen their toes, ankles, calves and thighs by doing as many heel raises as one can. This exercise is achieved by raising your heel slowly off the ground and slowly lowering it back to the floor. If you need to maintain balance place your hand on a bench or table taking care not to take any

body weight. This exercise was recommended to me by a member of the Australian Ballet Company. Practice this as often as possible every day. Also practice balancing on one leg. Bend supporting leg slightly at knee and draw the opposite leg up to chest and move foot in circles, up and down and from side to side. Repeat on opposite leg. Both these exercises will help in mastering extreme heels.

• Don't spoil the effect by wearing unsightly worn rundown footwear or loose soles. Keep footwear in good condition by cleaning uppers and soles, replace worn heel tips, or glue soles if they be-

come unglued.

• Enhance the effect of this stunning footwear by endeavoring to wear top quality hosiery, corsetry, lingerie, rubber and leather clothing and accessories.

Further information or questions answered can be obtained by phoning or sending SAE to the address shown.

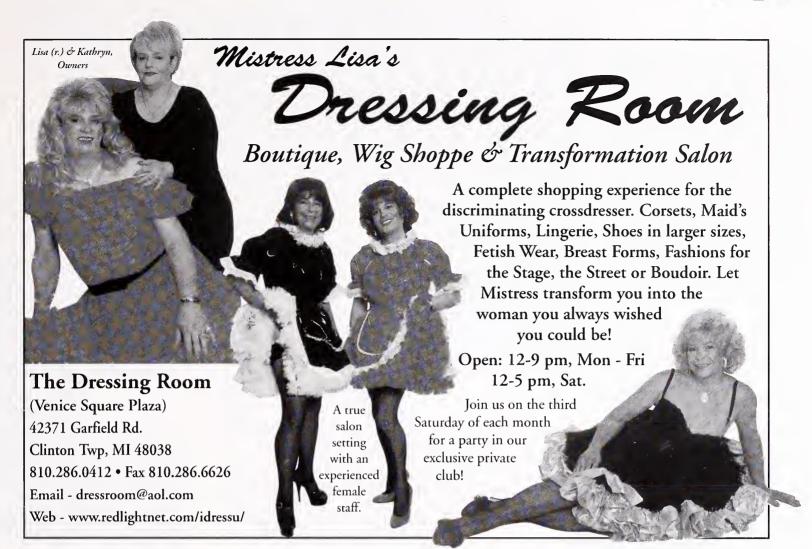
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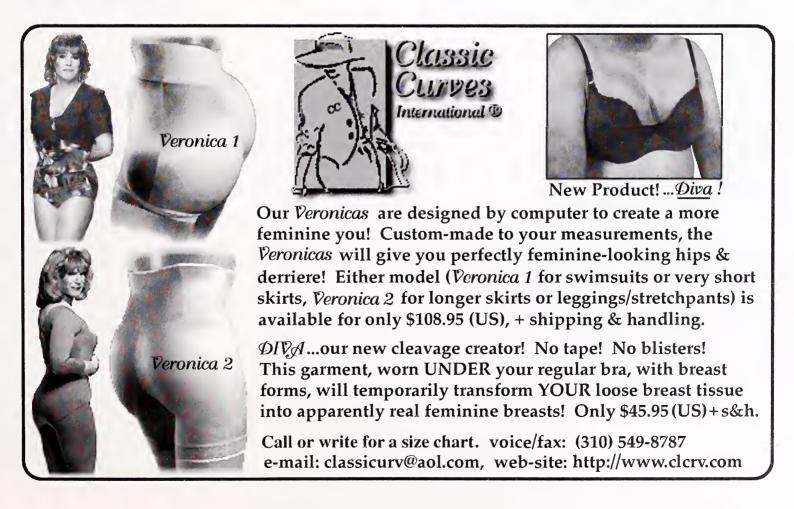
PO. Box 389 Prahran, Vic. 3181, Australia Phone: (03) 9510 9993

© 1997 Shoecraft, used by permission. We realize this article has been published in several other magazines, but we thought it had relevance. Besides, no one else had these great leg shots!

Photos: Helen Strong, photography; Joanne White, model.







LadyLike



Melissa F. Pa. -- MelissaFCD@aol.com





A sneak preview of our next cover girl - World famous Joan Rivers impersonator Frank Marino. We have a mini-interview and several gorgeous color photos.

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Kelly Roberts, PO Box 1344, Groton CT 06340



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Rachel Jean Tracy. FWD1902



Christie, Del. W





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▲ Here's a nasty group! (I to r) Jamie Fenton (jamie@tgforum.com), JoAnn Roberts (joann@tgforum.com) & Cindy Martin (cindy@tgforum.com) of Transgender Forum



Monique, Fla. 🔻





Mirror







On My Mind...



First there was the Transexual Menace. Then came Transgender Nation. Now the transgender community has spawned yet another activist group,

TransVestite Nuisance. Yes, friends, TVNuisance is the organization that truly represents the needs and desires of the transvestite

segment of the transgender community. What is it that TVN wants? Here are a list of their demands:

- Price Controls on Beaded Gowns! Now!...
- Decriminalization and Destigmatization of Middleaged Adolescent Narcissism (MAN) Now!
 - Restrooms Without Borders! Hurry!
 - Electrolysis on Demand! Soon!
 - Amnesty for Clothesline Shoppers!
 - Haute Couture in Plus Sizes!

Our motto is "Annoy with Charm!"

Though satirical in nature, TV Nuisance is a legitimate not-for-profit operation intended to be fundraising mechanism for legitimate transgender issues and projects including: lobbying, political action, education & research, and legal advocacy. TVN is the brainchild of Erin Souza, Cindy Martin, Jamie Fenton, and moi. TVN will begin a merchandising campaign with membership cards and maybe more. *All proceeds will go to real charitable projects*. If you want to know more about the goals and projects of TVN (like picketing Payless Shoe Source stores until they all carry size 13 double wide 4-inch stilettos), write to 3-D Communications, Inc., PO Box 80588, Valley Forge, PA 19484, or send email to tvnuisance@tgforum.com.

TVN is a kind of "backlash" against GenderPAC and it's off-the-wall advocacy positions. Last issue I told you how upset I was with the way GenderPAC was going. That meeting in February I mentioned? The only thing that came of it was another round of resignations from disenfranchised participants. Since then I've had conver-



sations with the people leading GPAC and they admit that it will be tough, if not impossible, to make any significant gains without the support of the "mainstream" of the transgender community. That's a polite way of saying people like you and me, crossdressers. Why? Because in this community we've got (and spend) the bulk of the money. In fact, one GPAC leader opined that GPAC will probably fail without our support.

Few, if any, crossdressers step up to the line to participate in the political process because it means you've got to be OUT. On the other hand, many transsexuals and transgenderists are hard at work at both the national and local levels trying to secure transgender civil rights, protect jobs, and end transphobic discrimination. Why? Because they're the most visible members of our community. Consequently, they catch most of the flak. Does it take a rocket scientist to realize that if these segments of our community find a way to work together, everybody benefits?

That's what TVN is all about. It's a goofy way for you, the crossdresser, to participate in the political process. We'll be making periodic reports of TVN "actions" like the aforementioned picketing of Payless Shoes. We hope that you will enjoy these humorous exploits and make some monetary contribution to TVN so we'll keep thinking up new actions. We'll have TVN merchandise, too. Where would a movement be without merchandise? We're looking into colorful membership cards, coffee mugs, and t-shirts. Make a donation and get some merchandise. Sounds fair to me.

We hope that local organizations will get involved as well. Support groups will be able to buy TVN merchandise at a discount and resell it to their members. All profits go into the TVN fund which will be disbursed periodically, but first we need to raise some dough.

What's it gonna take to get you sissy boys involved?

JoAnn Roberts

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